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ATTENTION: []

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1. REF YOUR MESSAGE 172216Z JAN 69.

2. CURRENT ESTIMATE IS 15-18 MONTHS FOR BRICK AND MORTAR COMPLETION OF TYPE III-E SINGLE SILO. CONSTRUCTION OF LAUNCH CONTROL FACILITY REQUIRES ESTIMATED 18-24 MONTHS. THUS, ABOUT 21-24 MONTHS ARE PROBABLY NEEDED TO COMPLETE A LAUNCH GROUP.

3. POSITIVE DETERMINATION OF III-E LAUNCH GROUP COMPOSITION NOT YET POSSIBLE; HOWEVER, NPIC INDICATES THE III-E LAUNCH SITES WILL PROBABLY BE DEPLOYED IN GROUPS OF TEN, WITH EACH GROUP HAVING A SEPARATE LAUNCH CONTROL FACILITY (NPIC, PIM: "TYPE III-E LAUNCH GROUPS. YOSHKAR-OLA ICBM COMPLEX, USSR," DECEMBER 1968,

4. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT PROCUREMENT OF ADDITIONAL HIGH RESOLUTION KH PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1969 WILL PERMIT REFINEMENT OF THE ABOVE CONSTRUCTION TIMING ESTIMATES AND POSSIBLY ALLOW POSITIVE DETERMINATION OF III-E LAUNCH GROUP COMPOSITION. FOR YOUR INFO, IAS' ICBM UPDATE FROM AUGUST TO DECEMBER 1968 IS IN FINAL STAGES OF WORK.

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END OF MESSAGE

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GROUP 1
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